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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Current Production
and Analytic Support

VIA: Deputy Director for Intelligence 8

FROM: Robert W. Magee
Director of Personnel

SUBJECT: White House Operations Center

REFERENCE: Memo to D/OP from D/CPAS,
dtd 3 Oct 84, Same Subject

1. As noted, your predecessor and I reviewed the position management and classification issues related to the White House Operations Center in February 1984. The representational aspect of those positions appears to play a significantly greater role today than it did then. I have decided, therefore, to approve Administrative Allocation upgrades for the eight positions (four GS-13 supervisors and four GS-12 watch officers). This will provide the grade levels you believe are needed to maintain quality and appearance, while still maintaining classification equity vis-a-vis other positions in the DI and the Agency. []

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2. To ensure that there are no later misunderstandings, let me add that I do not consider this decision to have any impact on the grades of the senior positions in the Headquarters Operations Center. I believe you share this view, having recently expressed to Chief, Position Management and Compensation Division (PMCD) your opinion that having the same grade levels for both the White House and Headquarters Operations Centers was reasonable and would not contribute further to any staffing concerns. Believing that the staffing issues raised in February may still be unresolved, I am pleased to hear that you plan to reopen discussions regarding the Directorate's policy for staffing the operations centers. (C)

3. PMCD will contact your Personnel Officer regarding implementing the grade changes for the White House positions. []

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3 October 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Personnel

THROUGH : Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM : [redacted]

SUBJECT : Director, Current Production and Analysis

SUBJECT : White House Operations Center

Bob,

1. I would like to encourage your personal attention and assistance to this request to have the eight (8) Agency Watch Officer positions at the White House Operations Center reclassified one grade level higher. (The present classification authorizes four GS-12 and four GS-11 positions.) The background and reasons for this request are outlined below.

2. In 1983, PMCD downgraded the Watch Officer positions at the White House during the course of a routine classification review of CPAS. This action produced a multi-faceted backlash. First, as could be expected, it completely demoralized the highly trained and dedicated incumbent officers occupying the Watch positions. Secondly, and possibly even more important from a detrimental standpoint, it indicated to the White House and the other government agencies involved in the Watch Center that the CIA did not consider this a serious operation.

3. This degrading action, which CPAS contested at the time, has resulted in two predictable occurrences: first, it has made it extremely difficult to recruit and retain the highly qualified and devoted personnel required to man such a key function; secondly, the political backlash of the reclassification now threatens the CIA's longstanding position of preeminence in the White House Operations Center which, if not corrected, will no doubt affect the Agency's long-term ability to present its viewpoints on intelligence matters to the nation's top leadership.

4. Both of the problems noted in paragraph three above have been substantiated by a recent Inspector General inspection which interviewed Agency Watch Officers, as well as non-Agency management personnel involved with the Center's operation.

5. I request your personal attention in the resolution of this problem. I also wish to assure you that if I or my staff can assist you in any way possible, please feel free to give me a call. The Deputy Director for Intelligence shares my concern about this matter, and he will strongly support my efforts to remedy the situation.

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